

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Bulgaria

REPORT NO.

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SUBJECT 1. Miscellaneous Military Information
2. Miscellaneous Factory Information

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MISCELLANEOUS MILITARY INFORMATION

Military Commands

1. In 1951, the command of the First Army was located in Plovdiv.

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2. 1953, the command of the Third Army was still located in Shumen. Its subordinate units are located in northeastern Bulgaria, to the north of the Varna-Shumen-Ruse line. At an unknown time in the second half of 1952, some complete detachments or partial detachments subordinate to this Army were transferred to other locations farther south. It is rumored that the command of the Army has also been transferred farther south; the most insistent rumors name Sliven as the new command headquarters.

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Garrison Command at Pleven

3. 1952, the military garrison command at Pleven was located in a 2-story building on the east side of Liberty Square. Its commander is an unidentified colonel.

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Troops

4. 1952, an unidentified motorized unit of approximately 500 men was located in the industrial quarter of Pleven, which is the eastern periphery of the city, about two kilometers from the city, and north of the road to Grivitsa (N 43-25, E 24-43). The personnel are chauffeurs and mechanics who have attended a motoring school. The garage of the unit is a wooden building about 400 by 30 meters in size, double-slope tile roof, which has a number of large rolling doors on the side facing the road. About 100 trucks of various types and about 30 motorcycles are located here. Troops are lodged in a 1-story brick building 300 by 30 meters in size, double-slope tile roof, which is located 300-400 meters east of the garage along the same road.

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- 25X1 5. [] 1952, an unidentified artillery unit of approximately 500 men was stationed about one kilometer west of Pleven. The principal building is a 1-story brick construction about 200 by 50 meters in size which is used for troop quarters. Three or four brick sheds one story high and about 80 by six meters in size are used for the cannons and vehicles with treads. [] 10 or 12 cannons of unknown caliber, which he estimated at 100 or 120 millimeter, barrel length about four meters, which have two solid wheels with hard tires and are drawn by half-tracks.
- 25X1 6. [] 1952, the headquarters of 2 Engineer Regiment was located in Plovdiv, and its subordinate units were located in unidentified areas around the city. The regiment was identified by Podelenie 4050.
7. As of April 1952, an unidentified infantry unit was quartered in the barracks of the former 9 Infantry Regiment. The unit consisted of a regimental command and a battalion. Other battalions were garrisoned in unidentified neighboring areas.
- 25X1 8. As of March 1953, an unidentified infantry unit was occupying a barracks in the western periphery of Lom, approximately one kilometer from the town. [] strength of this unit as about 1,000 men.
- 25X1 9. As of March 1953, 3 Motorized Artillery Regiment had Podelenie 6000. []

Depots

- 25X1 10. [] 1952, a fuel depot was located approximately six kilometers west of Pleven, and about one kilometer from the Vit River. The depot has five cylindrical tanks about eight meters long, 2.50 meters in diameter, which are covered with earth, and a number of barrels in the open. The area is enclosed by a barbed wire fence and four or five sentinels armed with automatic rifles guard the zone day and night. Construction is under way on underground tanks to replace the tanks which are in the open. There are three or four holes, 15 by 10 meters in size and four or five meters in depth. []

Troop Movements

11. Sometime in the second half of 1952, units subordinate to the Army command at Shumen were transferred to the south. The following units were located at Shumen:
- Unidentified heavy artillery regiment;
 - Unidentified light artillery regiment;
 - Unidentified infantry regiment; and
 - Unidentified engineers regiment.

25X1 [] two-thirds of the garrison force was transferred to Sliven [] 1953. The regimental command of some of the units was transferred, while the other (sic) remains at Shumen. [] the transfer is still continuing.

12. Insistent rumors are circulating in Shumen concerning the approaching transfer of the Army from Shumen to Sliven. Sliven is allegedly to be the new Army headquarters command following the movement of the subordinate units toward the south.

Recall of Reservists for Training

13. Reservists are recalled periodically for training periods of two months duration. The men are recalled without taking into account the class or the competence with

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arms.

In this period, the reservists were trained in the following:

- a. Familiarization with and handling of new weapons and materials used by the engineers, particularly the Soviet model B-41 antitank mine; only the classes discharged in the last two or three years were familiar with these mines, because German-type antitank mines were formerly used;
- b. Special care was given to acts of sabotage to be committed in case of retreat; some of these acts were as follows:
 - (1) Setting explosives in drinking water pipes, which would be set off by turning on the tap;
 - (2) Setting explosives in telephone apparatus, which would be set off by lifting the receiver; and
 - (3) Placing explosives under the floor, which would be set off by moving a chair.
14. Small groups of reservists are called on a continuous basis, with various classes included in the groups.

15.

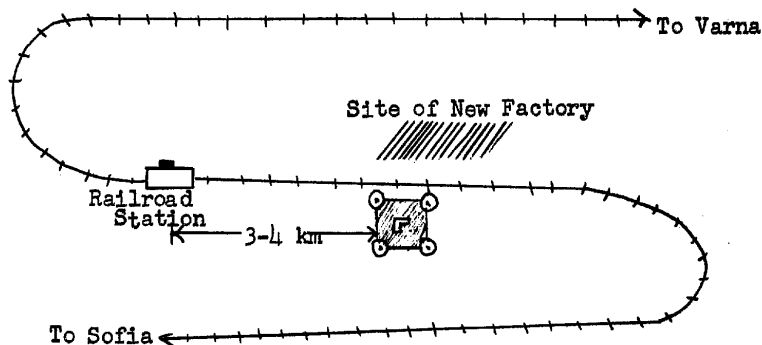
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MISCELLANEOUS FACTORY INFORMATION

New Arms Factory at Shumen

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16. [redacted] 1953, a small-arms factory was under construction at Shumen, three or four kilometers east of the railroad station, immediately north of the rail line to Varna, facing the principal prison for political prisoners which is located to the south of the rail line to Varna.



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17. The factory is scheduled to produce light arms, in general, pistols, rifles, sub-machine guns, and light machine guns. The war production of this factory is concealed in official declarations which state that it is to produce pens. [redacted]

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18. Following the Soviet example, before the start of construction work at the factory, the director has already been named. He is Monka (fnu), a battle name adopted during the partisan war, has no educational diploma, is an ex-partisan, fervent Communist, energetic, union organizer, and for five years was an inspector for the Ministry of Heavy Industry.
19. Construction work is expected to begin in early summer 1953. Some construction material has already been brought to the work site and other material is arriving at present. The factory is to be completed and put into operation in late 1954, as part of the present Five-Year Plan.

New Textile Mill in Pleven -December 1952

20. A new cotton spinning and weaving mill is located approximately 300 meters northeast of the railroad station of Pleven. It consists of a 1-story building about 120 by 20 meters in size and a shed used to store bales of raw cotton. The factory was completed in late 1952 and employs approximately 200-250 workers in three shifts per day.

Plovdiv Distillery

21. [redacted] the plant is a "Dürzhavno Stopansko Predpriatie" (State Economic Enterprise). The directorate and offices are located at No. 7 General Danail Nikolayev Street and the distillery is located at No. 75 Karl Marks Street (formerly Sveti Panteleimon Street).

22. Zhivko Mirchev was the administrative director of the factory [redacted]
[redacted] The factory produces wine.

23. From October to December, the plant employs 25-30 workers and five or six workers the rest of the year. During the harvest season (October, November, December), work is done in three shifts, and during the remainder of the year the reduced force works only one shift a day.

24. Most of the output is sent to the USSR, with a small amount being exported to East Germany. The grapes necessary for the distilling are provided by Bulgaria, in sufficient quantities, for the refining during the months of intense work. Forty tons of grapes are processed each 24 hours, and the amount of wine resulting varies according to the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{quantity of raw material}}{\text{grade of raw material}} : \frac{\text{grade of distillate}}{\text{quantity of distillate}} =$$

25. The plant consists of a stone masonry pavilion about 30 by 10 meters in size which is used as offices, medical clinic, and first aid station. The distillery is located in a 1-story stone masonry building about 50 by 20 meters in size which has a double-slope tile roof. A tower three by four meters in size rises 12 meters above the center of the distillery building.

26. Equipment consists of the following:

- a. Two wine vats, 20 ton capacity each;
- b. One distilling kettle, capacity 20 tons per 24 hour period; and
- c. Four distilling kettles, capacity five tons per 24 hour period.

The vapors are carried to the tower by means of tubes and come down in the form of distillate into vats according to the desired alcoholic content.

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Motor Vehicle Repair Shop, Plovdiv [REDACTED]

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27. A motor vehicle repair shop is located approximately four kilometers from the southern periphery of Plovdiv, about six kilometers from the down-town area, to the east of the road to Kuklen (N 42-02, E 24-47).

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28. The various buildings which comprise the workshop occupy a total area of approximately 250 by 200 meters. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] the building which serves as directorate and administration headquarters is a 3-story stone masonry construction. There are a number of stone masonry sheds, each of which is equipped as a special type of workshop to do a certain type of repair. Six or seven hundred workers are employed.

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